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45. The paste formulation according to claim 12, wherein the therapeutic agent is a COX-2 inhibitor which is 3-(cyclopropylmethoxy)-5,5-dimethyl-4-(4-methylsulfonyl)phenyl)-5H-furan-2-one or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or hydrates thereof, the colorant is TiO<sub>2</sub>, the viscosity modifier is PEG 300, the carrier is triacetin, and the absorbent is magnesium carbonate.

46. The paste formulation according to claim 44, wherein the COX-2 inhibitor is the polymorphic B form of 3-(cyclopropylmethoxy)-5,5-dimethyl-4-(4-methylsulfonyl)phenyl)-5H-furan-2-one.

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**REMARKS**

This invention provides for improved pasted pharmaceutical or veterinary formulations as well as methods of treating the various disease states associated with these formulations. This invention also provides for an improved method for manufacturing the paste formulations.

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a), Applicant petitions the Assistant Commissioner to extend the time period for Applicant to respond to the Requirement for an Election of Species by four (4) months; i.e., up to and including May 4, 2000. A check for \$ 1,390.00 is enclosed to cover the cost of this petition. Also enclosed is a check for \$36.00 to cover the cost of adding two more dependent claims in excess of 20. It is believed that no further fee is required for the consideration of this Amendment. However, if a fee is due, the Assistant Commissioner is authorized to charge such fee, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account 50-0320.

This Amendment adds claims 45 and 46. Support for these claims is found in claims 12 and 13 as well as in Example 5 on page 39 of the specification.